



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Patent Application of
Applicant: Woodard et al.

Docket No.: P031

Ser. No.: 10/039,872

Examiner: Roane, Aaron

Filed on: January 3, 2002

Art Unit: 3739

For: ABLATION INSTRUMENT HAVING A FLEXIBLE DISTAL PORTION

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on March 8, 2004.

Signed: _____

Ross M. Carothers

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RECEIVED

MAR 16 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

This response is to the Office Action mailed January 6, 2004, wherein the Examiner required restriction of Claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. 121 as follows:

- I. Claims 1-12, drawn to a catheter system, classified in class 606, subclass 41; and
- II. Claims 13-17, drawn to method of ablating biological tissue, classified in class 606, subclass 49.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants hereby elect Group I, without traverse.

The period for response to the Restriction Requirement ended on February 6, 2004. Please find filed herewith a petition for a one month extension of time. The period for response with the one month extension ends on March 6, 2004. Since March 6, 2004 is a Saturday, Applicants

respectfully submit that a response on March 8, 2004 is deemed timely in light of the one month extension of time.

If for any reason the petition should become separated from this response, the Commissioner is respectfully requested to consider this a petition for any extension of time required to maintain the pendency of this patent application. In this event the Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1894 for any fee that may be required to maintain the pendency of this patent application.

Applicants request that any fee or additional fee due be charged to, or any overpayment credited to, Deposit Account No. 50-1894.

Dated: March 8, 2004



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